Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph **[143]** beginning at page 36, line 19, with the following:

--**[143]** Nucleic acid based assay. The primer pairs (ROX)-TACAGGGTGGGTTTACC (SEQ ID NO:1) (IgM secretory region), ~~GTTTGCAAG TGTCCAGTGT~~ GTTTGCAAGTGTCCAGTGT (SEQ ID NO:2) (human VH3), and GTTTGCAAGTGTCCAGTGT (SEQ ID NO:2), (R6G)-TGAGGAGACGGTGACCAGGGT (SEQ ID NO:3) (human JH) are used to amplify human spleen cDNA (Stratagene, LaJolla, CA) to obtain full length IgM (first primer pair) and V-region (second primer pair) antibody gene PCR products (McCafferty, et al. IRL Press Oxford, UK (1996)). ROX and R6G rhodamine based fluorophores are attached at the 5' end of the respective primers. Amplification is carried out using standard PCR conditions, 100 ng of cDNA as template, and pfu polymerase as described (Griffin and Griffith CRC Press Boca Raton (1994)). The amplified products are resolved on a 1% agarose gel without staining. The gel is then rinsed in TAE buffer, and submerged in a solution containing CET reagent (Bis(6-carboxy-2,4,5-trichlorophenyl)oxalate and 100 mM H_2O_2) and imaged with a CCD camera.--

Please insert the accompanying paper copy of the Sequence Listing, page numbers 1 to 2, at the end of the application.